

New-York Tribune.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1911.

This newspaper is owned and published by The Tribune Association, a New York corporation; office and principal place of business, Tribune Building, No. 154 Nassau street, New York; Ogden Mills, president; Ogden M. Reid, secretary; James M. Barrett, treasurer. The address of the officers is the office of this newspaper.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York: Daily and Sunday, one month, \$3.00; Daily and Sunday, one year, \$30.00; Daily only, one month, \$1.00; Daily only, one year, \$10.00; Sunday only, one month, \$1.00; Sunday only, one year, \$10.00. Entered as Second Class Mail Matter.

FOREIGN SUBSCRIPTIONS.—By Mail, Postage Paid, outside of Greater New York: Daily and Sunday, one month, \$3.00; Daily and Sunday, one year, \$30.00; Daily only, one month, \$1.00; Daily only, one year, \$10.00; Sunday only, one month, \$1.00; Sunday only, one year, \$10.00. Entered as Second Class Mail Matter.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

FOREIGN.—Persia notified Russia that she accepted the terms of the latter's ultimatum regarding the employment of foreigners; this decision entailed the dismissal by Persia of W. Morgan Shuster, the American who has filed for the greater part of the year the treasurer general of the kingdom. Premier Yuan Shih-kai was still reported to be in the United States; it was proposed to apply the higher duties on the exports of the treaty of 1822. Each member of the Australian coal trust was fined \$2,500 for keeping up prices.

DOMESTIC.—Republican members of the House Committee on Ways and Means began work on the bill to amend the tariff schedule in accordance with the recommendations of President Taft and the report of the Tariff Board. The United States Supreme Court reviewed its rules so as to reduce the cost of litigation. The publication at Washington of the new rules governing interstate shipments of dynamite revealed how Judge Bordwell of Los Angeles, supplying evidence for the federal investigation. The federal grand jury at Indianapolis adjourned for the holidays after broadening the scope of the investigation. Miss Alice Linnell, of whose murder the Rev. Clarence V. T. Richeson is charged, and Charles S. Pierce, a Newton Theological Institution student, were probably still in the city, having been released from the trial of the clergyman in Boston. On account of the increase of smallpox in a number of counties in this state, State Health Commissioner Porter plans to issue an appeal to county officials to make every effort to check the spread of the disease.

CITY.—Stocks were dull and irregular. George J. Sheldon said his letter regarding the Lincoln campaign contribution should in no sense be construed to indicate that Theodore Roosevelt was thinking of accepting a candidate for the Presidential nomination. The majority leader of the Board of Aldermen, Henry H. Curran for chairman of the Finance Committee. The defendant in the "taxicab murder" trial, was acquitted by the jury at the direction of Justice Marcus. Isaac Harris, having in his own behalf, described the panic in his factory when it was able, and told how he helped to save many girls by leading them to the roof. Wright, the lawyer, who is known for his explanation of "The Shepherd King," of which he was part author, killed himself by inhaling gas. The New York Central Railroad Company asked Lake Shore of the two lines to give the Central a through route to Chicago under one management.

THE WEATHER.—Indications for today: Rain. The temperature yesterday: Highest, 55 degrees; lowest, 33.

THE LAWLESS AMERICAN.

It is a pity that Senator Borah had not read the inaugural address of the new Mayor of Charleston, S. C., when he expressed himself the other night in this city on the subject of American lawlessness. That worthy's ideas of his responsibility as a public official sworn to execute the laws would have furnished another plangent illustration of the notion prevalent among the guardians as well as among the disturbers of order that there is no moral compulsion on any one to respect or enforce a law which he does not personally like.

"The Columbia State" quotes this interesting excerpt from the Mayor's oration: "My attitude in reference to the 'blind tigers' will apply also to all other forms of lawbreaking, whenever I can 'cease the law to spring from unwarrantable interference with the habits of the people.' In Charleston winking at the existence and operation of 'blind tigers' has become a habit of the people." Charleston has never taken kindly to the dispensary or local prohibition laws of South Carolina, and the local liquor dealers have never had any difficulty in keeping their places open, even in spite of the former state dispensary police. The Mayor and the city are now so accustomed to the illicit saloons that they look upon them as venerable and deserving local institutions, to interfere with which would upset ancient usages and acquired rights. Perish the thought that any one in Charleston should take the prohibitions against the unlicensed sale of liquor too seriously! That would be challenging a comfortable habit for the purpose of setting up an uncomfortable one.

The new Mayor is at least perfectly straightforward and logical in planning to use his discretion in enforcing other laws than the liquor law. Any statute which he condemns as "springing from an unwarrantable interference with the habits of the people" is to be *ipso facto* nullified so far as his responsibilities as Mayor are concerned. The criminal code will cease to be an objective reality and become a mere set of suggestions in the consciousness of the administrator, to be acted upon or discarded according to his whims. Charleston's new chief magistrate will carry the law as well as his majesty thereof around under his hat.

Consciously or unconsciously this South Carolina burgomaster has merely proclaimed the spirit of lawlessness which others worship chiefly in secret. He is for the law which suits him and

for no other, and has no qualms about letting the whole world know where he stands. As an advanced type of the lawless American he would have graced the gallery of exhibits unveiled by Senator Borah the other night.

INVESTIGATING THE MONEY TRUST.

The only one of the Democratic investigations, a score or more in number, to attract any degree of public attention was the one devoted to the so-called Steel Trust, and that not because it discovered anything, but because it put interesting personalities on the stand. The party is evidently determined to make the same appeal all over again. The investigation of the "money trust" will give an opportunity to call Mr. Morgan, Mr. Rockefeller, Judge Gary, Mr. Perkins and all the rest of them—Senator La Follette says there are an even hundred of them, some dead, who hold the country's financial destiny in the hollow of their hands—as witnesses once more. Their comings and goings always pique public curiosity, and if some might suppose that the edge had been taken off the investigation by the inquiry into exactly the same subject and the calling of precisely the same men under the guise of investigating the Steel Trust, let no one be deceived. The interest is perennial.

Mr. Samuel Untermyer tells the author of the money trust resolution, a simple minded legislator who honestly believes in the horns and hoofs and the rest of the legend, that his proposed investigation would be of an importance incomparably greater than that of all the other twenty or more investigations conducted by the Democracy. This is conceivable, since all the other investigations are of no consequence whatsoever. The result of Mr. Untermyer's letter is that he is talked of for counsel to the investigating committee. His letter was evidently an inspiration. Without it he might not have been thought of, but obviously he is exactly equipped for the stage management of the dramatic exhibition of high finance.

There are only two men, however, who really know anything about the "money trust," and they are Colonel Bryan, of Nebraska, and Governor Wilson of New Jersey. The chances are that neither of them will be called to the stand.

THE DOMINANT IDEA.

Mr. William Barnes, jr., refers to the Democratic state administration as a splendid example of machine government without ideas. It seems to us that this opinion is subject to amendment. It is impossible, of course, to think of the Murphy-Dix administration as a thing of many or far-reaching ideas. On the other hand, it seems wholly useless to attempt to deprive it of the credit of having one idea, and of holding it to the tenacity which distinguishes the possessors of few ideas in their affection for the ewe lambs of their fold. Unquestionably the Murphy-Dix administration did have, probably still has, one idea, fitly set forth in the immortal mandate so popular in the legislative halls, "Get it while the getting's good."

Perhaps Mr. Barnes is right in saying that the administration has been without ideas, in the sense that this idea came from Murphy, the real head of the state's government for the last year, rather than from Governor Dix, the titular head. Yet it was adopted quickly by all loyal Democrats. Its spread was marked by the passage of Brooklyn "ripper" bills, an elections law which the Court of Appeals had to censor, a fake direct primary measure and job grabs of every nature, private road schemes, lumber contracts and the like. Possibly Mr. Barnes meant that the Democratic administration had no idea of fulfilling its important campaign promises in the spirit rather than the letter—if at all. Perhaps he meant that it had no idea of unselfish service of the public as distinguished from selfish service of the interests of a few individuals within a political party. If so he was unquestionably right. But it must be confessed that the Murphy-Dix administration so far has had one dominant, all-important idea, and has lived up to it consistently. Its sole regret is that the people by electing a Republican Assembly signified unmistakably their lack of appreciation of the sublimity of that conception.

TALK OF RUSSIAN REPRISALS.

The Russian Duma has promptly confirmed the estimate of it which we made the other day, that it is reactionary and anti-American in spirit. It resents this country's notice of abrogation of the treaty of 1832 and proposes that Russia shall retaliate for what it regards as an unfriendly act by declaring a tariff war of extreme terms against the United States. At least, that is the course which is being taken by those parties which control the majority of the Duma, and the manner in which the proposals have been received suggests the likelihood of their being adopted. The impositions of the bill which has been introduced would, if made effective, practically suspend all commercial relations between America and Russia.

There will presumably be nothing to prevent Russia's doing this after January 1, 1913, seeing that the treaty, which will then become invalid, is now the only barrier to such action. That was one of the considerations which we urged as reasons for proceeding in the business with deliberation and circumspection. Of course, it was not the supreme consideration, for commercial interests, even though they were vastly greater than ours in the Russian trade, should never be permitted to outweigh justice and national honor. Nevertheless, the possibility of such a disturbance of those interests made it desirable to conduct the negotiations, as the President did, with patience as well as with firmness, and in such a way as to raise no unnecessary obstacles or delay in the negotiating of a new treaty to take the place of the old. We venture to assume that the President has been so successful in that as to have secured a reasonable prospect of the negotiating of a new treaty before the expiration of that which has just been denounced.

There is ground for hoping, indeed, that this talk of reprisals against America will go no further than did some of the violent and unsupported tirades against Russia which were emitted here. The Russian government as well as the Duma has something to say in the matter, and it is probable that it will be found much more reasonably and amicably disposed than are the Nationalists and Orthodox politicians. Indeed, it may be that on sober second thought even the most aggressive of the retaliationists will doubt the wisdom of an act which might easily prove more costly to Russia than to us. It will not do to reckon that just because we sell much more to Russia than Russia buys from us the proposed tariff war would

be more injurious to us than to her. It might well prove to be the case that the United States could divert elsewhere the trade which it now sends to Russia, with little or no loss, while Russia might suffer severely in being no longer able to get the supplies which she now receives from the United States. Russia has as strong cause for deliberation in this matter as the United States had in the abrogation of the treaty.

PRACTICAL HEROISM.

One of the gifts in the Christmas stocking of Willie McCallum, ten years of age, should be a hero medal. The term "hero" is overworked and much abused, but it seems to apply pretty accurately to his case. During Christmas exercises yesterday at Public School 107, in Old Greenwich Village, Willie discovered a brick fire in one of the empty classrooms. He shut the door; then, without alarming anybody, told his teacher of the danger and ran from her with a warning to the principal. As a result the seven hundred pupils, some of them cripples who had to be carried out, were safe and the building empty within five minutes of the discovery of the fire.

Willie, so far as he knew, risked his life. The mere risking of life to save other lives does not necessarily constitute true heroism. Sometimes it is foolhardiness. Willie kept a level head. By his quick wit and intelligence he prevented a panic and rendered impossible the kind of disaster which the Fire Department dreads even worse than a theater fire. His name will be blessed in scores of homes.

THE LAW'S DELAYS.

The disgraceful delays which prolonged the miserable career of Walter, the murderer, through legal technicalities, apparently have not been exposed in vain. The Court of Appeals has been conducting an investigation of similar cases and has summarily rendered a decision which will bring one of them to a speedy settlement. In this case, that of a man convicted of murder in Columbia County last May, his counsel apparently has resorted to technicalities to bring about delay, and according to the District Attorney, has even neglected to observe the regulations of legal procedure.

To put an end to this the Court of Appeals set down the defendant's appeal for an early hearing and announced that if the lawyer were not ready to proceed at that date counsel would be substituted by the court. It is an example which might well be followed in numerous instances. Punishment to be properly effective should be prompt. It is at the same time a warning which, though lawyers in general may not need it, ought to be sufficient notice to some of them to mend their ways. The law's delays are not all due to the legal system, or to the courts. It might be well if bar associations and other lawyers' organizations would do a little investigating and scrutinizing of lawyers' records along the line of the Court of Appeals action in this case.

CUTTING TAXICAB RATES.

The community owes a promising experiment in cut rates for taxicabs, similar to the cut rates for telegraph messages during the last busy hours of the day, to the experience of one of the taxicab company's directors. He took one of his company's cabs on a business trip, used it for three hours, and found his bill to be \$10. This explained to him why the vehicles were not more used. The taxicab companies, instead of setting out to make their vehicles popular, neglected the situation as the extortionist cab drivers had left it. They took it for granted that cab riding would never be anything but a luxury in New York, and made their prices high, steadily increasing them, moreover, until their cabs are now too much of a luxury even for a man whose name appears in the "Directory of Directors."

Everything is against the development of the taxicab using habit among New Yorkers. For example, there is the custom of permitting private taxicab stands, which enables the hotels and other properties which allow these vehicles to occupy the streets in front of them to charge high prices for the privilege. This takes \$500,000 or so a year more out of the pockets of taxicab users than they should have to pay. Then the rules regarding picking up fares, which compel taxicabs to run empty half the time, also tend to make them vehicles of luxury. With a sensible system of stands and rules it would be worth while to see an attempt made to popularize cab using among those who now resort to it only on extraordinary occasions.

CANADA'S NEW IMMIGRATION POLICY.

The Canadian government's plans for discouraging immigration from this side of the border are a natural outcome of the recent triumph at the polls of the Conservative party. Mr. Borden won on a programme of exclusiveness, and in all his utterances on the stump he warned Canada against the effects of what he denounced as the proposed Americanization of the Dominion. He maintained that Canada's interests would suffer from closer commercial relations with the United States and from the intrusion into Canadian affairs of American ideas and influences. He has, therefore, properly decided to discontinue the quest which Canada has hitherto made for immigrants through a large section of the United States. The immigration agencies in Boston and Syracuse are to be closed and the advertising in American newspapers which drew thousands of settlers into Western Canada from our Northwest is to cease. If home makers from this country still go across the line they will do so uninvited and on their own initiative.

The American invasion of the Canadian Northwest has done much to hasten the development of that virgin region. According to Canadian figures, this migration has exceeded 100,000 a year for several years. In the first eight months of the present fiscal year, of the 281,898 arrivals in Canada 101,692 were from the United States. From now on, however, the Conservative government will try to stimulate immigration from the United Kingdom and to keep down the inflow of American settlers, who are not likely to accept the official theory that Canada can only be harmed by an extension of trade relations between neighboring powers on this continent.

This country can view with entire complacency the change in the Dominion's attitude. Northwest Canada has drawn several hundred thousand energetic workers away from Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Nebraska and the Dakotas, and those states will be glad to keep their present supply of farm labor at home. The United States does

not want to thrust closer trade relations upon Canada. If the Canadians think that they can do better working out their own destiny, drawing chiefly on their own population for their selves, they are entitled to hedge themselves in and make their experiment behind a partly closed door. The next move toward larger intercourse will have to come from Ottawa. Till then the United States can well afford to go its own way. In the end economic pressure will overcome narrow fears and prejudices and the two countries will get together on some such basis as was suggested in the far-sighted agreement made by Premier Laurier and President Taft.

THROWING STONES.

The great mystery of how the suffragettes of England in their last demonstration managed to break so many windows is at last explained by one of their number now in this country. No two articles of popular faith are more firmly held than that women cannot throw stones and that they cannot hit anything when they do throw them. Writers on physiology have fostered this delusion by explaining why it is anatomically impossible for women to throw anything. In any proper sense of the word as it is commonly understood by the hitherto superior or throwing sex. And young girls have prettily illustrated the alleged difficulty, doubtless as a ruse to impress the throwing male with his wondrous superiority of construction.

But this is a long distance from those broken windows. They are accounted for in this way: When the "demonstration" was approaching the suffragettes went to the seashore and practised with the abundant missiles there until they could hit what they aimed at—took a sort of training trip, like that of the Giants in the spring. When they returned to town every stone found a window.

Wondrous are the errors in what is universally believed! In the face of the demonstrated falsehood of the firmly held and scientifically sponsored belief that women cannot throw stones, what becomes of the belief that they are not fitted to govern the world? What demolishes an opinion like a stone that reaches its mark?

It is about time for some one to found an Ancient and Honorable Order of Those Who Used to Eat Eggs.

There can be no question of the profitability for a time—of some forms of literature and art; such, for example, as the *Cliffside de Luxe* which Burr Brothers, Inc., have been profusely putting forth from their great fiction publishing house in the Flatiron Building. With single lithographed sheets selling at from \$10 to \$1,000 apiece, fancy prices for Shakespeare folios and Mazarin Bibles fall into insignificance.

According to weary providers of holiday excitements there is a niche in the Temple of Fame awaiting the genius who can reform the calendar so that Christmas will fall only in leap years.

I am not a law-abiding citizen. More than that, I do not believe you here ought to be law-abiding citizens. Out there they called the troops out after us, and our rifles went up. So much dynamite was under the mill that it went up so high I guess that it has never come down yet.

Thus Harrywood, of Western Federation of Miners notoriety, translates the Rev. John Haynes Holmes into the vernacular.

Murphy is said to be a silent partner in two major league baseball teams. Can it be that there are so few "good things" left in the political field?

The powers have no thought of dictating to China what form of government she shall have, but neither are they to be dictated to by revolutionists as to whom they shall deal with in their relations with that country. At present Yuan Shih-kai is the practical head of the only legitimate government in the empire, and the powers cannot do otherwise than recognize him as such.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

A verdict in favor of high quality tea as a harmless drink is given by "The Lancet" at the conclusion of a series of articles on "The Chemistry of Cup of Tea." It is pointed out that when caffeine and tannin are in a state of combination the harmful astringent qualities of the tannin disappear and the bitter taste of free caffeine is not perceptible. Teas of high quality yield, as a rule, a simple infusion of caffeine tannin, not of caffeine or of tannin, and such teas must be regarded as the most desirable from a physiological point of view. Excessive infusion, it is stated, will spell a good tea, but even a short infusion of tea may be as objectionable as an excessive infusion of good tea. On physiological grounds, therefore, the consumer of high quality teas runs less risk of digestive disturbance provided the tea is made properly.

Hub (shopping with his wife)—If the goods you were just looking at suits you, why try other places? Why didn't you buy it and let us go home?

Wife—How foolish you talk! Why, I'm not half tired out yet—Boston Transcript.

COMPENSATION.

As we see by the price lists, beef, mutton and ham. All in value have greatly increased; Till today, to supply "Little Mary" with lamb. One must needs be a nabob, at least. That a man is omnivorous few will deny. There are very few things he won't eat. But the price of tame livestock has risen so high. He must look somewhere else for his meat. Since this craving for flesh food we cannot ignore. Here's a thought that should cheer us a lot: The wolf will henceforward keep far from the door. If he don't he'll be put in the pot! G. B. M.

Church—I see the ancient custom of putting a coin in the hand of the dead is still occasionally followed in the rural districts of France. Gotham—Gee! Don't the tipping business even stop after death?—Yonkers Statesman.

"The Journal of the American Medical Association" in a discussion of typhoid fever and its prevention by vaccination, figures that "even if every man, woman and child were vaccinated the income to physicians from vaccinating 3,106,474 people every ten years, would be only \$2,104,944, or \$11.94 each year. This would be an average of \$1 per year for each physician." Arguing from statistics of fewer cases that would be prevented by the serum treatment, "The Journal" says that each physician "would lose \$84.65 his present average income from typhoid, so that his net loss through the introduction of vaccination would be \$14.66 per year, or \$144 in ten years, a total loss to the entire profession of \$10,529,800 a year, or \$105,298,000 every ten years. And," adds the "Journal," "it is safe to say that had vaccination never been discovered physicians would today be making \$1,000 each for

smallpox patients where they now make \$1 for vaccinations. Yet the ignorant and the thoughtless still talk about the graft of vaccination."

"Well, Tommie," said the joyous Slithers, "you must congratulate me. I am going to marry your sister."

"Why, Tommie?" protested Slithers. "Don't you like me?"

"You're like me, you well enough," said Tommie, "but let Mabel a pound of candy you wouldn't be fool enough to ask her, and she let you would?"—Harper's Weekly.

HIGH COST OF LIVING.

Dr. Irving Fisher Explains His Recent Comment on the Causes Thereof.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I notice in The Tribune under date of December 12 the report of an address recently delivered by me on the "Rise in the Cost of Living." Those who know my views must have rubbed their eyes when they saw what appeared in your paper. I did not state that malaria, the hookworm and alcohol were responsible for the rise in the cost of living. On the contrary, I stated that the cost of disease had always been with us, and was not in the least responsible for the recent rise in the cost of living or any hardships connected with it. It is also true that I suggested an international commission to eliminate disease, not that I acquired trusts altogether of a share in the rise in the cost of living. I stated that the causes of the world-wide rise of prices were a matter of dispute, and that therefore there should be appointed an international commission to make an authoritative investigation of the cause of the rise in the cost of living. I stated that the cause of the world-wide rise of prices was a matter of dispute, and that therefore there should be appointed an international commission to make an authoritative investigation of the cause of the rise in the cost of living. I stated that the cause of the world-wide rise of prices was a matter of dispute, and that therefore there should be appointed an international commission to make an authoritative investigation of the cause of the rise in the cost of living.

Incidentally, I stated that one way to cope with the rise in the cost of living, whatever its cause, was economy in all forms. In this connection I mentioned the needless cost of disease, among which were alcoholism, malaria, hookworm and other diseases, such as tuberculosis. I stated the fact that a New Haven sanatorium in which I am interested expended \$200,000 in curing a certain number of patients who have already earned \$300,000, and still have an earning capacity estimated actuarially at \$200,000. The securing of these earnings and earning power has, of course, helped the people and their families to cope with the rise in the cost of living. Our government eliminated a great part of the hookworm disease in Porto Rico at a cost of less than 60 cents a patient, restoring to him an earning power of more than 60 cents a day for the rest of his working life. These and other examples show how it pays to eliminate wastes of all kinds, though they are as old as civilization and, in no wise a new factor responsible for the recent rise in the cost of living.

At one of the sessions of the meeting of the American Economic Association in Washington on Friday, December 23, a discussion of the rise in the cost of living will be held, in which Senators Lodge, Smoot and Cawdron; Mr. Luce, chairman, and Mr. Mcweeney, member of the recent Massachusetts Commission on the Costs of Living; Dr. Neill, United States Commissioner of Labor; John Mitchell, labor leader, and others are to speak.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

Washington, Dec. 22.—Alfred Mitchell Innes, British counselor, entertained a number of guests at dinner to-night.

The Austrian naval attaché and Baroness Friederich von Lichtenstein will leave here to-morrow to join the Christmas house party to be entertained by Senator du Pont.

The Persian Chargé d'Affaires and Mme. Ali Kuli Khan will entertain a Christmas dinner party.

IN WASHINGTON SOCIETY.

Washington, Dec. 22.—More formal social affairs gave way to-night to informal entertainments for the school boys and girls who are rapidly arriving for their vacations.

Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs. George F. Downey were hosts at a dance for their two sons, Fairfax Davis and George Fairfax Downey, Jr., who are here for the Christmas season. Charles Taft, the children of Secretary and Mrs. Nagel and school girls and boys to the number of sixty were in the cotillion of four figures, for which the favors were Christmas bells and other conceits appropriate to the season. The decorations were red and green.

Colonel and Mrs. Edward Burr also entertained a young people's party, the guests including Miss Frances Hodges, Miss Eleanor Crozier Reburn, Miss Elizabeth Reid Rogers, Miss Estelle Crane, Lieutenant and Mrs. Francis B. Wilby, Lieutenant Commander Courtney, Major Horton, Lieutenant Sultan and Guy Emerson.

Representative and Mrs. Nicholas Longworth were hosts for Oyster Bay to-morrow, to be the guests over Christmas of ex-President and Mrs. Roosevelt.

General A. W. Greely and Mrs. Greely will have a family reunion on Christmas, Miss Gertrude Greely, who has been visiting in New England; Miss Antoinette Greely, who has been for some time in Brooklyn, and A. W. Greely, Jr., of Philadelphia, all returning for the holidays.

Ex-Senator and Mrs. Burrows entertained ex-Judge and Mrs. Henry B. Brown, Judge and Mrs. Thomas H. Anderson, Mrs. Talmage, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Merriam, General Black, Mr. and Mrs. Wade Ellis and Dr. and Mrs. Gore at dinner to-night.

Senator du Pont will entertain a large house party at his Delaware home over Christmas, taking them to Winterthur to-morrow in his special train.

Miss Mary W. Aldrich entertained guests at luncheon.

Miss Margery Ide, daughter of the Minister to Spain, who has been the guest of Representative and Mrs. Longworth and other friends, has gone to New York to spend the holidays with her brother-in-law and sister, Mr. and Mrs. W. Bourke Cockran.

If special measures press too hardly there result complaints and petitions for relief, and in extreme cases violence against officials who may be the immediate causes of their dissatisfaction, but irritation never takes the form of seditious feeling against the government as such, of whom the King-Georgians during the last common people are absolutely sure.

Nor does the fact that the government is foreign and that they are a subject race stir up feelings of seditious; rather does the conviction of English justice and impartiality give a sense of security and peace.

When we consider the attitude of educated Indians we again are guilty of injustice if the loyal unrest of the many is not distinguished from the seditious unrest of the few. Seditious activities with seditious laws or policies or officials should not be construed as seditious, any more than Democratic dissatisfaction with a Republican administration should be construed as seditious against the government of the United States. Indians, as they through education become more qualified, desire more political liberty, more self-government, more representation in the making of laws, and a larger hand in the administration. This is not seditious and has no relation to it.

There are fanatics in India and anarchists in England, and who can predict what they may or may not do? But King George is as safe in India as he is in England. JUSTIN E. ARBOTT.

Summit, N. J., Dec. 18, 1911.

CACTUS PAINT BEFORE BURBANK.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: Your article crediting Mr. Burbank, of botanical fame, with the discovery of making paints from the juice of cactus leaves is interesting—because of the fact that some one else, a long time ago, discovered the same thing.

Paints and whitewash made from the juice of the cactus have been used and are now used extensively in Paraguay, Uruguay and Argentina, and have proved very satisfactory.

I admire Mr. Burbank's works and discoveries very much and great credit is due him, but the credit for the above "discovery" is misplaced in your article of even date. "JUSTICE."

Brooklyn, Dec. 22, 1911.

RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP.

To the Editor of The Tribune. Sir: I am a very old man, but if I remember rightly, the Emperor of Russia, during the reign of the Madchen Sound, sent three of his vessels to the harbor of New York, with instructions to his admiral to put himself and the vessels at the disposal of President Lincoln. This action of the Emperor was unless I am much mistaken, intended to serve as a warning to France and to England that if they added the South they would have to deal with Russia also. And they heeded the warning.

If this memory of mine is correct, it presents only another evidence of the extreme friendship feeling that has existed between the United States and Russia, and the existence of which too many of our statesmen would seem to have forgotten.

New York, Dec. 18, 1911. H. V. S.

People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

[From The Tribune Bureau.]

Washington, Dec. 22.—The President remained at his desk all day, but received only a few callers, among them Senators Kenyon, Cullom, Warren and Perkins. Representative Kahn and ex-Senator Aldrich. The tariff was the chief topic of discussion. Mr. Taft and Mr. Aldrich discussed monetary legislation and the forthcoming report of the National Monetary Commission, which will be ready on January 8.

Immediately following the reception of the members of the diplomatic corps and army and navy officers on New Year's Day, President Taft will receive the members of the Yale Glee Club.

To-morrow more than two hundred turkeys, ranging in weight from ten to fifteen pounds, will be distributed among the employees of the White House and executive offices, including the thirty or more policemen stationed in and around the buildings, and 50 gold pieces will be given to each of the clerks as Christmas gifts from the President.

Late this afternoon the President, accompanied by Major Root, continued his Christmas shopping. Mrs. Taft also braved the dripping weather this afternoon, and, in company with Miss Taft, finished her Christmas shopping in the downtown district. She greeted her friends cheerily and looked well and happy. She wore a costume of dark wistaria colored cloth and a hat of corresponding shade. Miss Taft wore a costume of brown cloth, with fur bands. She carried many small packages.

Still another dance of last evening was that given by Mr. and Mrs. John Jay McKelvey, at the Hotel Astor, to introduce their two daughters, Miss Mary and Miss Constance McKelvey. The guests were received by Mrs. McKelvey, who was in a gown of black chiffon spangled with steel over white satin, and by her daughters, who were in white satin and lace. They were assisted by Miss Evelyn Weeks, Miss Helen Adams, Miss Phyllis Goodhue, Miss Mildred Holmes, Miss Helen Johnson and Miss Estelle O'Brien. The dancing, which was general, took place in the east ballroom, and at midnight there was a buffet supper in the north ballroom.

Among the guests were Miss Hazel Bache, Miss Clara Louise Brett, Miss Marion Hipman, Miss Katherine Oakley, Miss Elizabeth Kunz, Miss Julia Gilbert, Miss Ruth Stanley-Brown, Miss Zoe Hannah, Miss Eleanor Lapham, Roderic McAlpin, Charles Baker, Bayard Dodge, Rudolph Stanley-Brown, Walton Kinsley, Fleming Revelle, Edmond O'Brien, Stanhope Nixon, Truman Handy and Charles Baker.

Albert H. Porter also gave a dance last night. It was for his debutante daughter, Miss Doris Porter, and took place at Sherry's. The small ballroom, which was used, was decorated with Christmas trees, holly and mistletoe. Assisting Mr. Porter and his daughter in receiving were the latter's aunts, Miss Raymond Headland and Mrs. M. D. Kallbach. The guests consisted of Miss Eleanor S. Prentice, Miss Robert S. Thompson, Miss Elizabeth S. Kendall, Miss Sarah R. Manice, Miss Dorothy J. Manice, Miss Ethel Outerbridge, Miss Ruth Moller, Kenneth Hadden, Arthur McClure, George T. Brokaw and Jod Fisher.

Mrs. Charles D. Sablin also gave a dance at Sherry's last night for her debutante daughter, Miss Elizabeth Sablin. There was no cotillion, the dancing being general until midnight, when supper was served. Among the guests were Miss Anita Marie Smith, Miss Marjorie Cleveland, Miss Diantha A. and Miss Marion Fitch, Miss Vanoult T. Proctor, Miss Harriette Louise McAlpin, Miss Katherine Riving, Miss Vera L. Van Buren and Miss Elizabeth Stillman Kendall.

Mrs. B. Ogden Chisolm will give a threeparty party this evening for her daughter, Miss Winifred Chisolm. After the play she will take her guests to Sherry's for supper.

Mrs. Frederick Roosevelt will give a bridge party to-day at her house in East 52d street.

William C. Sheldon will give a dinner on January 12 at Sherry's for Miss Eleanor Prentice and Miss Hope Hamilton.

SOCIAL NOTES FROM NEWPORT. (By Telegram to The Tribune.)

Newport, Dec. 22.—Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt completed her inspection of her estate, The Breakers, to-day and returned to New York.

Mr. and Mrs. James Andrews Swan have returned from a New York visit.

It is expected that Mrs. Frederick Nelson will take up her residence here after her return from abroad.

Rear Admiral Cameron McR. Winslow has returned from New York to spend Christmas with his family.

The Caldwell estate in Kay street is being extensively improved for the reception of Mrs. Campbell Stuart, who has leased the estate.

After a brief visit here Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Vanderbilt have returned to New York.

Mrs. David King will spend Christmas with Mr. and Mrs. H. Maitland Armstrong at their Long Island home.

MRS. MORGAN'S INTERVIEW Says Publicity Is Distasteful to a Woman of Refinement.